

MINUTES

MONTANA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES 60th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE ON NATURAL RESOURCES

Call to Order: By Chairman Walter McNutt, on February 7, 2007 at 3:00 P.M., in Room 472 Capitol.

ROLL CALL

Members Present:

Rep. Walter McNutt, Chairman (R)
Rep. Ron Erickson, Vice Chairman (D)
Rep. Ralph Heinert, Vice Chairman (R)
Rep. Duane Ankney (R)
Rep. Debby Barrett (R)
Rep. Jill Cohenour (D)
Rep. Sue Dickenson (D)
Rep. Betsy Hands (D)
Rep. Gordon R. Hendrick (R)
Rep. Carol Lambert (R)
Rep. Scott Mendenhall (R)
Rep. JP Pomnichowski (D)
Rep. John (Jack) W. Ross (R)
Rep. Veronica Small-Eastman (D)
Rep. Kendall Van Dyk (D)
Rep. Chas Vincent (R)

Members Excused: None

Members Absent: None

Staff Present: Krista Lee Evans, Legislative Branch
Nancy Kraft, Committee Secretary

Audio Committees: These minutes are in outline form only. They provide a list of participants and a record of official action taken by the committee. The link to the audio recording of the meeting is available on the Legislative Branch website.

Committee Business Summary:

Hearing & Date Posted: HB 304, 1/23/2007; HB 320,
1/23/2007; HJ 14, 1/23/2007
Executive Action: HB 473; Committee Bill; HB 291

HEARING ON HB 304

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

00:01:44 Rep. Kevin Furey (D), HD 91, opened the hearing on HB 304, Create interim water policy committee.

Proponents' Testimony:

00:05:13 Clinton Cain

[EXHIBIT\(nah27a01\)](#)

00:11:17 Holly Franz, Clark Fork River Basin Task Force

[EXHIBIT\(nah27a02\)](#)

00:13:17 Hertha Lund, Art Witt Law Firm

00:13:50 Mike Murphy, Montana Water Resources Association

00:15:29 George Alberda

00:18:02 John Dunlap

00:22:48 Anna Pederson, Montana Environmental Information Center (MEIC)

00:23:43 Jim Potts, HKM Engineering, Bozeman, Montana

00:26:21 Stan Bradshaw, Trout Unlimited

00:27:39 Allen Wright, Montana Multiple Use Association

00:28:28 Mick Seeburg, Association of Gallatin Irrigators

00:30:13 Mary Sexton, Department of Natural Resources and Conservation (DNRC)

00:34:41 Steve Welch, Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ)

00:36:18 Walt Sales

00:37:33 Bob Lane, Department of Fish, Wildlife, and Parks

[EXHIBIT\(nah27a03\)](#)

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony:

00:40:48 Todd Everts, Legislative Services Division

[EXHIBIT\(nah27a04\)](#)

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

00:44:41 Rep. Erickson

00:47:04 Rep. Furey

00:47:42 Rep. Dickenson

00:48:46 Ms. Sexton

00:50:15 Rep. Dickenson

00:51:05 Rep. Furey

00:52:16 Rep. Barrett

00:52:28 Rep. Furey

00:52:53 Rep. Barrett

00:53:35 Ms. Sexton

00:54:24 Mr. Welch
00:55:23 Rep. Barrett
00:56:08 Rep. McNutt
00:56:14 Mr. Everts
00:58:05 Rep. McNutt
00:58:15 Rep. Barrett
00:58:48 Mr. Everts
00:58:57 Krista Evans
00:59:26 Rep. Barrett
01:00:05 Mr. Everts

Closing by Sponsor:

01:00:35 Rep. Furey

HEARING ON HB 320

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

01:05:48 Rep. John (Jack) Ross (R), HD 60, opened the hearing on
HB 320, Close Fiddler Creek subbasin.

[EXHIBIT](#) (nah27a05)

Proponents' Testimony: None

Opponents' Testimony:

01:09:02 Harley Harris, Spring High Ranch

[EXHIBIT](#) (nah27a06)

01:18:41 Mike Murphy, Montana Water Resources Association

01:19:50 John Youngberg, Montana Farm Bureau

01:20:39 Tim Ravndal, Montana Multiple Use Association

Informational Testimony:

01:21:42 John Tubbs, Department of Natural Resources &
Conservation (DNRC)

Questions from Committee Members and Responses: None

Closing by Sponsor:

01:23:24 Rep. Ross

01:24:17 Break

HEARING ON HJ 14

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

01:37:45 Rep. Ralph Heinert (R), HD 1, opened the hearing on HJ 14, Urge congressional revision of laws on sale of public property.

EXHIBIT (nah27a07)

Proponents' Testimony:

01:41:04 Mary Sexton, Department of Natural Resources and Conservation (DNRC)

01:41:56 Molly Immen, Montana Audubon

01:42:23 Allen Wright

01:43:35 Tim Ravndal, Montana Multiple Use Association

01:43:51 Katie Kassmier, Montana Farmers' Union

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

01:44:40 Rep. Erickson

01:45:33 Rep. Heinert

01:46:14 Rep. Lambert

01:46:51 Ms. Sexton

01:47:15 Rep. Barrett

01:47:38 Jerry Meyer, State Liaison, U.S. Forest Service

01:48:55 Rep. Cohenour

01:49:07 Mr. Meyer

01:49:12 Rep. Barrett

01:49:26 Mr. Meyer

01:49:38 Rep. Vincent

Closing by Sponsor:

01:49:55 Rep. Heinert

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 473

01:52:25 **Motion:** Rep. Heinert moved that HB 473 **DO PASS.**

01:52:36 **Motion:** Rep. Ross moved that HB 473 **BE AMENDED.**

EXHIBIT (nah27a08)

Discussion:

01:52:55 Krista Evans

01:53:13 **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote. Reps. Mendenhall and Van Dyk voted by proxy.

01:53:31 **Motion:** Rep. Ross moved that HB 473 **DO PASS AS AMENDED.**

Discussion:

01:53:48 Rep. Cohenour

01:53:59 Rep. Barrett

01:54:34 **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote. Reps. Mendenhall and Van Dyk voted by proxy.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON COMMITTEE BILL/RESOLUTION PILT PAYMENTS

01:55:41 Rep. McNutt

01:55:55 Rep. Lambert

01:56:18 Rep. Erickson

01:56:32 **Motion/Vote:** Rep. Cohenour moved that **COMMITTEE BILL/RESOLUTION BE DRAFTED.** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote. Reps. Mendenhall and Van Dyk voted by proxy.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 291

01:57:36 **Motion:** Rep. Ross moved that HB 291 **DO PASS.**

01:58:24 **Motion:** Rep. Ross moved that HB 291 **BE AMENDED.**

EXHIBIT (nah27a09)

Discussion:

01:58:39 Krista Evans

02:01:10 Rep. Pomnichowski

02:01:54 Rep. Dickenson

02:02:51 Rep. Erickson

02:03:14 **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote. Reps. Mendenhall and Van Dyk voted by proxy.

02:03:39 **Motion/Vote:** Rep. Ross moved that HB 291 **DO PASS AS AMENDED.** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote. Reps. Mendenhall and Van Dyk voted by proxy.

Additional Exhibits:

Testimony received on HB 320 after hearing was over and minutes were completed.

EXHIBIT (nah27a10)

ADJOURNMENT

02:06:22 Adjournment: 5:30 P.M.

REP. WALTER MCNUTT, Chairman

NANCY KRAFT, Secretary

WM/nk

Additional Exhibits:

EXHIBIT ([nah27aad.pdf](#))